

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

licants

: Shinya KIMOTO et al.

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Appl. No.

: 10/806,116

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed

: March 23, 2004

For

: BATTERY PACK APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby call to the Examiner's attention the following documents:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2001-76771, which was published on June 22, 2001, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicants note that this document is mentioned on page 3 of the specification of the present application;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2001-167803, which was published on June 22, 2001, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicants note that this document is discussed on pages 1 and 2 of the specification of the present application;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 7-192774, which was published on July 28, 1995, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicants note that this document is discussed on pages 2 and 3 of the specification of the present application;

U.S. Patent No. 6,709,783 to OGATA et al., which issued on March 23, 2004;

- U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0004461 to HAMADA et al., which was published on January 8, 2004; and
- U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0211384 to HAMADA et al., which was published on November 13, 2003.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the U.S. patent and U.S. patent application publications are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign documents are attached hereto and all of the documents have been listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicants also bring to the Examiner's attention the following co-pending, commonly assigned patent applications:

- U.S. Patent Application No. 10/785,989 to KIMOTO, entitled "Cooling Device for Battery Pack," which was filed on February 26, 2004; and
- U.S. Patent Application No. 10/806,285 to KIMOTO, entitled "Battery Pack Apparatus," which was filed on March 23, 2004.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(iii), copies of the above-noted applications are attached. However, the Examiner is also requested to review the file

July 1, 2004

GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.

1950 Roland Clarke Place

Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191

wrapper of these U.S. patent applications at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the references of record, if any, cited therein.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted, Shinya KIMOTO et al.

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Bruce H. Bernstein

Reg. No. 29,027

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| FQRM PTO-1449 S. D. | | | | | | | | | epartment of nt and Trade | | Atty. Docket P25083 | | | Application No. 10/806,116 | | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| | 1 | English Language Abstract of JP 2001-76771. |
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| | 2 | English Language Abstract of JP 2001-167803. |
| | 3 | English Language Abstract of JP 7-192774. |
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EXAMINER

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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.